

Men's Golf Captain's Blog – 10th October 2024



Winter rules are now in place as one summer finishes and winter golf beckons.

This is my final blog as Captain. I hand over to Justin who will be your new Captain for 2024/25, his Drive In is this Saturday 12th October. There are many people to thank who have assisted and help me enjoy a wonderful year as your Captain. It has been a privilege and pleasure to represent the Club during this year.

Competitions Played

The George Gadd Challenge 7th September

A very competitive affair with four players on 69 with Colum Murray coming out as the winner on countback, well done Colum.

Men's Autumn Meeting 21st September

Congratulations to Finn Begley who returned gross 68 in round one and 66 in round two recording 8 under. Finn plays off -2 and despite this low handicap also picked up the nett prize in one of the best golfing performances of the year. Two incredible rounds of golf.

Shaun Feldon came second in the gross with 72 and 70 and Alex Milward came second in the nett. Congratulations to all the prize winners.



Club Stableford 28th September

Well done to Greg Waunford-Brown who won with 37 points, followed by Alastair Wright with 36 points.

Captain and Pro vs Challengers Match 6th October

This was a great day of golf and fun afterwards. Most who participated in the Captain and Pro matches played in a Four Ball Better Ball Bogey against the course. We won which was not really a surprise as Ricky was my partner with a finishing total of + 9 and a score of gross 66.

I played 20 matches throughout the year, winning 14, losing 5, with one halved.

The worst Pro score was 71 with Will scoring two 63's during the year. The average Pro score was 65/66. Fantastic golf.

Will played seven matches followed by Ricky with six, Sam three and Wes and Oscar with two each. A big thank you to all the Professionals and Joe for your patience this year, it was a lot of fun.

Also, a huge thank you to all the challengers who played and contributed to our joint charity, Small Steps. Previous Captains have described these matches as the best feature of being a Captain and I couldn't agree more.

Three matches preceded this with Andrew Walker and Alex Milward taking on Sam and I followed by Dan Bird and Donald McKenzie with Will and finally Greg Waunford-Brown and Rob Findlay with Ricky. All close matches and pleased to prevail against strong challengers. Great fun gentlemen and thank you.

Roll ups

Sunday 8th September saw 24 players turn up for our ever-popular roll up. Congratulations to Catherine Emanuel winning with an excellent 40 points followed by three players on 39 points.

Following the Ladies' and Men's Golf Committees it has been approved for Club Roll Ups to be updated as below.

From 1st December to 28th February, all will become Mixed Roll Ups. Outside of these months these will alternate between traditional mixed roll ups and individual sign up. These have been renamed to avoid confusion.

Mixed Roll Up

Arrival at 7.30am in the Club Café.

Names drawn randomly at 7.40am.

Mixed Individual Stableford

Individual sign up – sign up opens seven days before.

Two days before the competition, a random draw will take place and be emailed to all players. Should players sign up after the draw is made, they will be randomly assigned a tee time.

Please see the remainder of the year's roll ups below:

Saturday 5th October – Mixed Individual Stableford AM + PM

Sunday 20th October – Mixed Roll Up

Sunday 10th November – Mixed Individual Stableford

Sunday 24th November – Mixed Individual Stableford AM + PM

Sunday 1st December – Mixed Roll Up

Once January and February have been updated on Intelligent Golf we will ensure these are reflected too.

The John Ling Salver

We are into the final which will be played against Farleigh GC at Banstead Downs on Thursday 17th October. Led by our Team Captain, the indomitable Nigel Brown the team won against London Scottish by 4 to 1 in a very tight match. We wish our team all the best and a thrilling final and hope they bring the Salver back to the Club.

Scratch Team

Sadly, our scratch team lost against Hindhead on Sunday 29th September. I understand three of the matches went down the last against a very talented Hindhead team. Well done to all the participants over the season for getting us there and making Roehampton Club proud of your journey.

Clash of the Club Champions

On Saturday 5th October a supporting group of Members witnessed some scintillating golf when Alex Tonge played Issy Simpson in a head-to-head match as the Men's and Ladies Club Champion. Alex prevailed in this hotly contested match.

We hope that this will become a regular fixture and I would encourage Members to spectate next year, I know Alex and Issy appreciated all the support.

Junior Club Championship

Our champions of tomorrow battled for this coveted title on Sunday 8th September. Zaal Owen won the nett with 68 off 9 while Archie Angood had a gross of 75 off 1. Very well done to all the players, it looked like a lot of fun.

Knockout competitions

Congratulations to the following:

- 4 BBB winners Scott and Oliver Stanley
- Scratch Matchplay Knockout Alex Tonge
- Ockleshaw Cup Nigel Brown
- Ockleshaw Plate John Tyrwhitt
- Mixed Knockout Foursomes Claire Martin and Justin Thesiger
- Super Seniors Trophy John Randel
- Seriously Seniors Trophy Bill Phelan

- Married Knockout Aisling and Ben Wilson
- Senior Scratch Roy Martin
- Lockwood Foster final to be played

Thank you

A big thank you to all the Starters throughout the year who are frequently the unsung heroes of the Club as they try to enforce rules and diktats from the various committees. I very much appreciate your efforts. Enjoy the beer.

To all our groundsmen, thank you. I have been very proud to call this my home course, the fairways, roughs, greens and bunkers are in great condition and I know we all appreciate your hard work. With ongoing works it will get better and better.

To Peter and David thank you for your patience in explaining all the technical work, I have really enjoyed learning about what it takes to maintain and improve the course.

Last and not least to all the supporting administrators Simon, Louis and Matt for their tireless work and making the Captains' life as straightforward as possible, thank you.

Most of all thank you to each of you who have made this a very special year. Old friendships have been enhanced and new ones formed.

It has been a particular pleasure to Captain alongside Caroline. We have tried to continue and improve on the fine work of our predecessors Simon and Charlotta to strengthen the bond between the sections. It has been great to get to know and play golf with many more Ladies this year I have very fond memories of all our games.

Last but not least, thank you to my wife Mary who has shown resilience and good humour throughout the year.

As I bow out 'May The Fores (4s) Be With You' ...

Peter McGovern, Men's Golf Captain